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Programme planning

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Programme 1
Political affairs

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its review of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, the Committee for Programme and Coordination, recommended, inter alia, that the Secretary-General provide further information on the applicability of regulation 4.13 and rule 104.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8) with regard to the revisions to the list of legislative mandates relating to subprogramme 4, Decolonization, of programme 1, Political affairs.[1]

2. Regulation 4.13 states that "the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes ...". The related rule 104.8 provides that:

> "(a) Revisions to the medium-term plan are required, inter alia:
>
> "(i) When intergovernmental mandates adopted after the adoption of the plan call for new or substantially modified programmes and subprogrammes or any other revisions that should be properly identified;
>
> "(ii) When the programme mandates in the opinion of the Secretary-General have become obsolete;
>
> "(iii) When the Secretary-General deems it necessary to propose new activities at the subprogramme level not covered by existing legislative mandates.
>
> "(b) Substantive revisions shall be those which propose a change in the objective(s) or the strategy of the programme or subprogramme."

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3. Regulation 4.13 and rule 104.8 would appear to be applicable and relevant whenever proposals are made to the General Assembly for additions to and deletions from the programmes and subprogrammes contained in the medium-term plan. A proposal has been made to add to the list of legislative mandates in subprogramme 4, Decolonization, Assembly decision 56/410, entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)". This is an additional intergovernmental mandate adopted after the adoption of the plan. Rule 104.8, paragraph (a) (i), refers to such situations by indicating revisions as being required when mandates "call for new or substantially modified programmes and subprogrammes or any other revisions that should be properly identified".

4. Member States may wish to take the above information into consideration when making a determination on issues outstanding with regard to revisions to subprogramme 4, Decolonization.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), para. 73.